

The Examiner has required restriction between the following inventions as required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

I. Claims 1-62 and 70, drawn to method/computer programmed system/computer executable software code for transforming a circuit from a first topology to a reduced topology, classified in class 716, subclass 3.

II. Claims 63-67, drawn to a method of transforming a first circuit from a first topology to a reduced topology involving reducing the circuit elements in a bottom-up fashion from the leaf nodes to the root of the tree-like topological approximation that was generated and identified, classified in class 716, subclass 3.

III. Claim 68, drawn to a method of reducing capacitors within a circuit topology involving moving and merging capacitors identified associated with the particular connections to the transistor drain or source node, classified in class 716, subclass 2.

IV. Claim 69, drawn to a method of reducing nodes within a circuit topology involving merging nodes P1 and P2 into one node if P1 and P2 satisfy the particular conditions, classified in class 716, subclass 2

Applicants hereby elect Invention I (claims 1-62 and 70). Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's restriction requirement of Invention II (claims 63-67). Applicants request examination of the elected subject matter on the merits.

Applicants expressly reserve the right under 35 U.S.C. §121 to file a divisional application directed to the nonelected subject matter during the pendency of this application, or an application claiming priority from this application.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement of Invention II. Applicant submits that the restriction requirement of Invention II does

not properly consider the claimed invention. The table below lists the independent claim 1 of Invention I and independent claim 63 of Invention II for the purposes of showing their similarities and differences.

Claim 1 (independent)	Claim 63 (independent)
A method of transforming a first topology to a reduced topology, said first topology representing an abstraction of one or more objects, said first topology further comprising a plurality of inter-connected elements, said method comprising the steps of:	A method of transforming a circuit from a first topology to a reduced topology, said first topology comprising a plurality of inter-connected circuit elements, said method comprising the steps of:
[1a] <u>identifying one or more elements</u> ;	[63a] <u>generating a tree-like topological</u> approximation of at least one partition of the first topology;
[1b] analyzing the effect of <u>reducing one or more of said identified elements</u> on the topological and physical characteristics of said one or more objects; and	[63b] <u>identifying one or more circuit elements</u> for reduction from the tree-like topological approximation; and
[1c] if the effect is negligible, <u>generating a second topology</u> reflecting the reduction of one or more identified elements.	[63c] <u>reducing one or more of said circuit elements</u> in a bottom-up fashion from the leaf nodes to the root of the tree-like topological approximation.

As shown in the table above, the underlined claim languages show the similarities between the two claims. For example, the language of “identifying one or more elements” of claim [1a] is also in claim [63b]; the language of “reducing one or more said ... elements” of claim [1b] is also in claim [63c]; and the language of “generating a ... topology” of claim [1c] is also in claim [63a]. Applicants submit that the two inventions do overlap in scope, they are obvious variants of each other, they are capable of use together, and they may share certain common designs and modes of operation. For at least the reasons presented above, Applicants respectfully request the restriction requirement of Invention II (claims 63-67) be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In the unlikely event that the transmittal form is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing **188122002200**. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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